(b) to (d) The loan shall be available as per the provisions of a draft loan agreement to be entered into by Ministry of Finance, on behalf of Government of India. It has loan covenants relating to the Loan, Use of Proceeds of the Loan, Particular Covenants, Suspension, Cancellation, Acceleration of Maturity, Loan Effectiveness and Delegation of Authority. These conditions have been finalised between Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Railways and the ADB.

(e) The projects to be funded by ADB under this loan will be implemented by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, a public sector company, set up to undertake the Golden Quadrilateral strengthening projects and other bankable projects under National Rail Vikas Yojana.

Recruitment SCR

3274. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board had given permission to the South Central Railway to take up recruitment of posts under Group D category to overcome shortage of manpower;

(b) whether the process of recruitment to these posts has been started;

(c) if so, when the recruitment is to be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. South Central Railway have placed indent on Railway Recruitment Board, Secunderabad.

(c) Recruitment process is likely to be completed by March, 2004.

(d) Does not arise.

Restoration of narrow gauge rail lines in Gujarat

3275. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been decided to restore five narrow gauge lines in Gujarat;

(b) whether after completion of restoration work these lines were not opened for traffic;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the infructous expenditure incurred thereon; and

(e) the action taken against the responsible persons for causing loss to Government and lacking for sightedness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Train services have been restored on Kosamba-Umarpada, Ankleshwar-Rajpipla and Bodeli-Chhota Udepur sections from 1 -7-2003. However, train services on Jhagadiya-Netrang and Daboi-Samalaya-Timba Road sections have not been restored due to resource constraints.

(d) No infructous expenditure is incurred for restoration of the lines.

(e) Does not arise.

Condition of railway stations in North Eastern Region

3276. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to improve the conditions of railway stations in the country particularly in the North Eastern Region; and

(b) the details of funds allotted, released and utilised for the same during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) There are more than 8000 Railways stations on Indian Railways. Improvement/renovation/modernization of Railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken every year wherever warranted, including stations in North Eastern Region, on the basis of condition and availability of funds.

Stations in North Eastern Region have been provided, as is the case elsewhere, with the passenger amenities as per laid down norms. Regular inspections at the Jevel of Supervisors' as well as Officers' are carried out to ensure the adequacy of amenities at stations. Deficiencies noticed are removed to ensure availability of amenities. In addition to these regular